

deemed proper in proceedings in U.S. Federal courts; and communications with Department counsel which merely inquire as to procedures or the status of a proceeding without discussing issues or expressing points of view. Any written communication subject to the above stated rule received by the Department shall be placed in the correspondence file of the case, which is available for public inspection. If an oral communication subject to the above stated rule is received, a memorandum setting forth the substance of the conversation shall be made and placed in the correspondence file.

PART 203—PROCEDURES RELATING TO CONDUCT OF CERTAIN HEARINGS UNDER THE MERCHANT MARINE ACT, 1936, AS AMENDED

Sec.

203.1 Scope of rules.

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AUTHORITY: Secs. 204(b), 605(c) and 805(a), Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. app. 1114(b), 1175(c) and 1223(a)).

SOURCE: 55 FR 12358, Apr. 3, 1990, unless otherwise noted.

§ 203.1 Scope of rules.

(a) The provisions of this part apply to applications which involve statutorily mandated hearings under sections 605(c) and 805(a) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. app. 1175(c), 1223(a)), hereinafter referred to as the "Act", conducted by the Maritime Administrator or Maritime Subsidy Board of the Maritime Administration, hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Administration".

(b) The provisions of this part are to be construed consistently with the Administration Rules of Practice and Procedure in 46 CFR part 201. If this part and 46 CFR part 201 conflict, this part shall govern.

§ 203.2 Applications.

(a) Notice of all applications subject to this part shall be published in the

FEDERAL REGISTER, in accordance with the provisions of 46 CFR 201.72.

(b) All applications under section 605(c) of the Act shall specify, at a minimum, full details of the existing or proposed new or amended service, to include itineraries and the number and type of vessels currently operated in the trade or trade route, the number and type of vessels proposed to be operated in the trade or trade route, the frequency of sailings and port calls and the nature and extent of U.S.-flag and any foreign-flag competition. As a matter of discretion, the Administration may request additional information, which may be protected by a confidentiality ruling, if justified. If the application is one for additional service on a route in which the applicant has an established service, or for an existing service, then the applicant must include information on its previous three years of operation. Applicants for permission under section 805(a) of the Act must describe clearly the scope of permission sought, including details of proposed domestic service and existing or proposed foreign service, as well as the applicant's operating structure.

(c) Applications under section 605(c) of the Act shall be filed on Form MA-964, in accordance with the instructions annexed thereto. Copies of Form MA-964 may be obtained on request from the Secretary of the Administration.

(d) Applications for permission under section 805(a) of the Act shall be submitted in accordance with the procedures set forth in 46 CFR part 380, and shall comply with all of the requirements of that part.

§ 203.3 Opposition to applications.

(a) *Required documents.* A person seeking to oppose an application shall file with the Secretary of the Administration, and concurrently serve upon the applicant, a petition for leave to intervene, together with an answer, within the time period specified in the FEDERAL REGISTER notice of the application. Normally, twenty days will be provided.

(b) *Petition for leave to intervene.* The petition for leave to intervene shall